

in fact realized the significance of the point, I propose to call the new race

Hemipus picatus leggei, subsp. nov.

Type.—Ceylon Survey Series, no. 284. Adult female collected at Ohiya, 5800 feet, Ceylon, on November 29, 1936. To be deposited in the British Museum.

Note.—The juvenile plumage of this form is not yet known, and it will be of great interest to discover how it falls into the plumage sequence of the group.

A new Genus and Species of Tanager from Central Brazil.

Mr. J. BERLIOZ sent the following description of a new Passerine bird (? Tanagridæ) from central Brazil :—

I feel it more convenient actually to consider this bird, of which unfortunately a single specimen was secured, as a new generic type,

RHYNCHOTHAUPIS, gen. nov.,

with no near ally and a somewhat doubtful systematic position, its bill being more icterine in shape than tanagrine or fringilline; but its weaker feet, its plumage, general appearance, and pattern are closest to those of the Tanagers. It differs from most of the South American Tanagers and Finches by stouter bill (somewhat intermediate in shape between *Arremon* and *Dolichonyx*, and even comparatively larger, considering the size of the bird), with the base of the culmen and the mesorhinium flattened instead of being ridged, and the interramal space of the mandible more shortly rounded in front. The tail also is comparatively short, with long upper and under tail-coverts, reaching at least to its middle.

Rhynchothraupis mesoleuca, sp. nov.

Finch-like bird with general plumage, including wings and tail, uniformly deep black, slightly glossy on the upper surface owing to the shiny fringes of all the feathers. On the throat a small concealed patch of white at the base of the feathers. A large elongated area of pure white occupies

the middle of breast and belly, and merges posteriorly into the mixed black and white vent, thighs, and proximal under tail-coverts, the longest of which are nearly entirely black. Inner and longer under wing-coverts whitish. Wings rounded, the fourth quill the longest. Tail rather short and rounded, the rectrices wide and soft.

Bill high at base, stout and conical, compressed laterally; culmen nearly straight, produced on front into a distinct and slightly flattened mesorhinium; nostrils rounded and exposed. Bill apparently bluish-grey, becoming whitish along the tornia. Feet greyish-black.

Total length 140; culmen 15; tarsus 17; wing 70; tail 60 mm.

Type and unique specimen (in the Paris Museum). Male adult, collected at Juruena, north-east of Cuyaba, Matto Grosso (Central Brazil), in dry forest, on August 25, 1938, by Dr. A. Vellard.

Until better known this bird can be placed among the Tanagridæ, not far perhaps from the rare *Conothraupis speculigera* (Gould) from Peru, both representing aberrant types, with a somewhat similar pattern.

Two new Races of Petrel.

Mr. GREGORY M. MATHEWS sent the following description of a new *Prion* from New Zealand and one from the Falkland Islands.

***Heteroprion belcheri lalfa*, subsp. nov.**

Description.—Differs from *H. b. belcheri* in having a wider bill, which measures 24 to 25 mm. in length by 10 mm. in width. *H. b. belcheri* has a bill measurement of 25 by 8 mm., and *H. b. serventyi* has a bill measurement of 26 by 11 to 12 mm.

Distribution.—New Zealand seas.

Type.—An unsexed adult in my collection. Wing 176; tail 88; tarsus 30; middle toe and claw 37; bill 25 by 10 mm. Collected on Kapiti Island in 1934.

Type-locality.—Kapiti Island, New Zealand.

Remarks.—It appears from the above that the New Zealand subspecies of the thin-billed *Prion* is intermediate between the eastern and western Australian forms.